GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1828
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004
IMPACT OF VEHICULAR POLLUTION ON TAJ MAHAL
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Taj Mahal is turning yellow due to pollution from diesel/petrol run vehicles;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to ensure regular supply of CNG in Agra to combat the situation;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas thereto; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) The deposition of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) on the marble surface of the Taj Mahal imparts yellowish appearance on the areas, which are not rain-washed. Diesel or petrol run vehicles are amongst many contributing sources for SPM.

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has started regular supply of natural gas to all foundry units in Agra.